

For Immediate Release

The IDOC and Crime Stoppers Team Up to Solve Crimes

Indianapolis, Indiana (December 23, 2008)—The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) is teaming up with Crime Stoppers in Indiana to pilot a project within prisons to help solve crimes.

The pilot project, which kicked off at the Correctional Industrial Facility in Pendleton, Indiana on December 22, runs a live video stream from the Crime Stoppers website on the closed-circuit televisions in the facility. The video stream contains slides with information on a number of unsolved crimes throughout Indiana.

Offenders watching the closed-circuit television within the facility are encouraged to submit anonymous tips on the cases they see by calling a special telephone number and entering a code. Then, if the information leads to a felony arrest, offenders may be eligible for a monetary reward that will be paid to their designee outside of the facility.



An offender watching the Crime Stoppers video stream is interviewed about the project.

Lt. Tom Kern, the Program Director of Crime Stoppers Central Indiana, was on hand to introduce the project at the facility. He explained, “All of the cases the inmates see are the same cases the general public can see. This information is updated instantly. It’s refreshed, and every day new cases will be brought into the facilities for people to watch on the video.”



Lt. Kern explains the project to the audience.

The IDOC will be the first state corrections agency in the nation to pilot such a program. If the pilot is successful, the program could be expanded to all IDOC facilities.

“This partnership between the IDOC and Crime Stoppers creates an innovative program aimed at increasing public safety. I am confident that this program will yield positive results and be expanded to all IDOC facilities,” said IDOC Commissioner Edwin G. Buss.

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